

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 04849 101340Z

51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /093 W
----- 030001

R 101230Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0808

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 4849

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR IN US

SUBJECT: US INVOLVEMENT IN DOMESTIC INDIAN AFFAIRS

REF: NEW DELHI 4559

1. CONSUL GENERAL PICKERING SPOKE TO WEST BENGAL CHIEF MINISTER RAY, AND I WITH MEA JOINT SECRETARY (AMERICAS) TEJA, ON APRIL 5 ABOUT THE RASH OF PRESS CRITICISM OF PETER BURLEIGH AND OTHER US ALLEGED INTERFERENCE IN DOMESTIC INDIAN AFFAIRS IN GUJARAT, ASSAM AND BIHR. WE BOTH EMPHASIZED THE ABSURDITY OF THE CHARGES, NOTED THAT THE ELEMENTS BEHIND THE CAMPAIGN WERE CLEARLY IDENTIFIABLE AS THOSE WISHING TO THWART AN IMPROVEMENT IN INDO-US RELATIONS, AND EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN THAT SOME MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS PARTY (ALTHOUGH NOT GOVERNMENT MINISTERS OR OFFICIALS) HAD JOINED THE CHORUS IN THE PREVIOUS FEW DAYS. BOTH RAY AND TEJA EMPHASIZED THAT THE PRESS CRITICISMS AND ATTACKS DID NOT EMANATE FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND WERE NOT SUBSCRIBED TO BY THE GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL OR OF INDIA. THEY URGED WE IGNORE THE ATTACKS AND DESCRIBED THEM AS OF NO IMPORTANCE. THE INDIAN PRESS, THEY ARGUED, WAS FREE AND THE CONGRESS PARTY WAS A LARGE UMBRELLA WHICH SHELTERED ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE, SOME OF WHOM OCCASIONALLY WOULD CRITICIZE NOT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NEW DE 04849 101340Z

ONLY AMERICANS BUT INDIAN OFFICIALS AS WELL; E.G., AMBASSADOR

KAUL AND M.C. KAUL.

2. PERHASP TOTALLY UNRELATED, BUT PERHAPS NOT, THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS IN NEW DELHI RESPONDED TO A WRITTEN QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT APRIL 10, INQUIRING WHETHER THERE WAS A CIA PLAN BEHIND THE STUDENT TROUBLE IN BIHAR AND GUJARAT, WITH THE RESPONSE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HAD NO INFORMATION TO INDICATE ANY SUCH CIA INVOLVEMENT AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT MAINTAINED THE UTMOST VIGILANCE IN SUCH MATTERS.

3. COMMENT: WHILE NOT THE MOST ROUSING DEFENSE OF AMERICAN ACTIVITIES IN INDIA, IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT THE GOI IS APREPARED TO OFFER SOME DECLARATORY DISCLAIMER ABOUT US SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES IN INDIA. IT INDICATES THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO TAKE PUBLIC ISSUE WITH THE COMMUNISTS ON THIS SENSITIVE TOPIC.
SCHNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT, VISITS, POLITICAL LEADERS, ANTIWEST
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NEWDE04849
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740082-0670
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740452/aaaabuxc.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: NEW DELHI 4559
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Aug-2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US INVOLVEMENT IN DOMESTIC INDIAN AFFAIRS
TAGS: PFOR, IN, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005